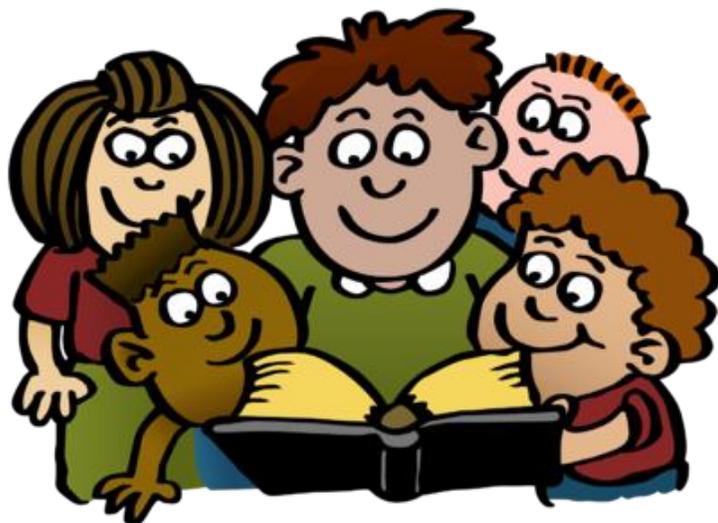


One Mom's Thoughts about HOPE for Boys

After visiting HOPE UCC for the first time in 2016, I knew almost immediately that I had found the right church for me. As a mom, however, I typically put my kiddo's needs above my own wants and needs. I wondered if HOPE would be the right church for my son Anthony, who was eight years old. We had come from a much larger church that was "traditional" in that it resembled many people's idea of what a church "should" look like. It was a large, stone building with lots of stained glass windows, a large pipe organ, a big choir, three pastors, and a Sunday school class for each grade level. I wondered, would HOPE be able to meet my son's needs? Would Anthony enjoy church?

Would he learn and grow even though HOPE was so much smaller, with a lot fewer children?



I can't say exactly why I chose to ignore my doubts about attending a church that was so outside of my idea of what a church should be, but I'm quite glad that I trusted my instincts and kept coming to HOPE. Periodically, I would check in with Anthony. He reported that he liked HOPE. He certainly never complained about going to church. In fact, he was always agreeable, even happy to go to church on Sunday mornings. Eventually I noticed he began expressing disappointment on any Sundays when there was no Kids Quest! I observed that Anthony enjoyed Children's Time. I did not have to coax him or go with him

to the front of the sanctuary, and he soon became an active participant in the discussions. He also began volunteering enthusiastically to be an usher and to help with communion.

Before sitting down to write this article, I asked Anthony, what he likes about HOPE. Anthony immediately replied, "At HOPE everybody is welcome. At HOPE you can be yourself." Anthony said that HOPE is a "safe place," one where he could express his feelings, share his thoughts, and even cry. He talked about passing the peace and recognized that it's important to respect how other people feel and to respect their boundaries. He knew that some people really like hugs, and some people don't. Sometimes they just don't feel like it or maybe they have a cold. Anthony also named a long list of grownups at HOPE who he really likes and enjoys spending time with in addition to the other children. At HOPE, my son appears comfortable and confident in ways he never was at our previous church.

(To be continued in next week's HOPE Happenings.)

Jolene Fiscella
HOPE UCC Partner

News & Notes

New HOPE UCC T-Shirts Have Arrived!

Get yours today! Our new shirts look fabulous! A variety of child and adult sizes available for a suggested donation of \$15 to HOPE UCC. T-shirts are great to wear to all HOPE UCC events, i.e. Aurora Pride Parade, Jesus Has Left the Building, GameShow Palooza, etc.



SAVE THE DATE for Jesus Has Left the Building & We're Following Him



What: Jesus Has Left the Building and We Are Following Him

July's "workshop" project will be led by HOPE's youth group, The Landing! The youth have chosen our next JHLTB project. It will be at Ready, Set, Ride: Therapeutic Horseback Riding for Children with Special Needs

When: Sunday morning, July 29th

Where: Ready Set Ride, [13056 Essington Rd., Plainfield, IL 60585](#)

Stayed Tuned: Details and more information is coming in the HOPE Happenings & announcements on Sunday mornings. We hope to have both physical & non-physical workshop opportunities for HOPERS of all ages & abilities. There will be a sign-up sheet available soon for JHLTB as well as a post-workshop gathering for lunch.

It's COUGARS BASEBALL time!

Who doesn't love sitting in the warm night air eating a hot dog and washing it down with a beverage of your choice? **Saturday, August 18**, come see the Cougars play some baseball against Clinton, Iowa. Seat tickets are \$13 (I think) and Trott's going to get 30 tickets, for starters. **Game time is 6:30 p.m.**, but there's more! It's **Super Hero Night** and then **fireworks** after the game. One last thing...The band **Hi Infidelity** (popular rock oldies) is playing before the game out behind the park in center field. They start around 4:45 p.m. There's a signup sheet in the lobby so please let us know your interest in getting tickets and how many. **TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME....** (Sing that in your head. It helps get you in the mood!)



UPCOMING SUMMER EVENTS – Save the Dates!

Just show up if you can! Look for the HOPERS! More details will be forthcoming... keep an eye on the HOPE Happenings!

8/01 (Wednesday) - Motown Concert @ Fishel Park, Downers Grove (7 p.m.)

8/18 (Saturday) - Cougars Game vs. Clinton - Hi Infidelity playing prior to the game

8/26 (Sunday) – HOPE UCC Annual Picnic!

Sharing Joys & Concerns

Please keep these people & events in your prayers:

- † Let us pray for my cousin, Danny, still in the hospital gaining strength. He suffers from low thyroid. Moving from ICU to regular care is good. (Barb Z.)
- † Prayers for Michael on day 19 of no smoking. Please keep him in your prayers to help with cravings.
- † Continued prayers for the Foster-Hulbert family and little man "Z" to become a permanent member. (Michael and Terry)
- † Let us pray for our spiky, angry families near and far.
- † My sister, Rose, and her husband Roger returned from Montana with my great-niece, Presley. We have her for a few weeks. She is 11 and I haven't seen her since she was three. (Zach J.)
- † Prayers for my brother, Jim, as he moves into a new home, and my brother, David, traveling from Illinois to Pennsylvania to help with the move. (Barb Z,)
- † Let's pray for Jackie in her health crisis. (Zach)
- † Prayers for more understanding, empathy, and acceptance of all people. Also, for more peace in our communities, our homes, and in our country. (Jolene)
- † Pray for safe travels for Mark and Carolyn as they travel the Oregon Trail in a covered wagon. (Barb Z.)
- † Let us pray for immigrant children and their families who have been separated at our border. Pray for reunification and pray for comfort and no harm to the children. (Jolene)
- † Please pray for safe travel to Madrid Film Festival where my son's film is nominated for Best Screenplay, Best Film, and Best Editing. This is where some companies can pick up distribution of the film. (Anna)
- † Let us pray for Virginia G., Mike M.'s grandma, who is in hospice for her final days. Please pray for his mom and aunt who have been giving 24-hour care for the past year since she was diagnosed with cancer. (Mike and Teri M.)
- ☉ Congratulations to Nick and Jane and everyone in the family. Henry "Hank" arrived on Friday and made Jane and Nick official grandparents! (the Entire HOPE Family)
- ☉ In celebration of our grandson, Henry "Hank" Nicholas D., born Friday to our son and daughter-in-law, Sam and Bequita, after seven years of disappointment. (Jane & Nick D.)

Prayer Requests



Celebrating Birthdays

07/19 Kristy Revoldt
07/30 Ian Hankins
08/11 Regina Ellsworth
08/24 Maddie Fosen
08/30 Barb Zigterman

If we've missed your birthday, please email
HOPE's Office Manager at
HOPE@shareHOPE.org.

HOPE LIBRARY

You may reserve items (books, videos or tapes) by calling HOPE's Office Manager at (630-922-0470) during office hours; by checking them out at HOPE UCC any time it is open; or by calling **Les & Jackie Pierce**, HOPE Librarians, at (630) 369-0485.

HOPE'S Leadership

Pastor	Lucas King
Moderator	Mike Manderino
Des. Moderator	Erin Cooley
Past Moderator	Becky McCabe
Treasurer	Les Pierce
Secretary	Julie Hapke
Registrar	Jane Trotta
Community Life	Shannon Lane
Education	Marie Higgins
Pastor-Parish	Tim Higgins/Jay Hruska
Marketing & Communications	Jenn Revoldt
Missions	Jolene Fiscella
Resource & Operations	Nick Dempsey
Worship	Mary Kroening
Librarians	Les & Jackie Pierce
Photo Archive	Anna Ahonen
Webmaster	Jenn Revoldt

Quest

ADULT QUEST – 9 a.m. @ HOPE UCC

Please note: Adult Education is on Summer Break until September. A start date for Adult Education will be published in August 2018.

KID'S QUEST – Sundays during Worship

HOPE United Church of Christ

1701 Quincy Avenue, Suite 27
Naperville, IL 60540-6684

The Reverend Lucas King

Pastor Lucas' Cell – 720-378-2858
Pastor Lucas' Email – pastor@sharehope.org

Office Phone – 630-922-0470
Office Email – hope@sharehope.org
Website – www.sharehope.org

Office Hours:

Tuesday - Thursday - 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Deadline for additions or corrections to the next issue of
HOPE Happenings is July 25, by 2 p.m.**

Announcements for Sunday due by Wednesday of each week.

Thanks!

UPCOMING EVENTS @ HOPE UCC

<p>July 19, Thursday</p> 	<p>Women Out to Lunch (Noon) Join the women of HOPE on the third Thursday of each month. Lively conversation, great food & warm fellowship is waiting for you at Giordano's Restaurant at 119 S. Main Street, in downtown Naperville. Parking is available in the lot across from the restaurant or the Van Buren Parking Building.</p>
<p>July 22, Sunday</p> 	<p>New Partner Class #3 @ HOPE UCC (9 a.m.)</p>
<p>July 22, Sunday</p> 	<p>Rainbow Faith @ HOPE UCC (1-3 p.m.) HOPE's ministry to support those in the LGBTQ+ community who are looking for a place to wonder and explore their faith. Find out more at: www.meetup.com/Rainbow-Faith-LGBTQ-Christians/ If you have questions, would like to participate or support this ministry, please contact Pastor Lucas.</p>
<p>July 25, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>July 29, Sunday</p> 	<p>Jesus Has Left the Building and We're Following Him (Please see article for more information.)</p>
<p>August 1, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>August 1, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Concert @ Fishel Park, Downers Grove (7 p.m.) Featuring: Second Hand Soul Band (Motown) Visitors are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets for the outdoor concert. Dogs are welcome to also enjoy the concert but must be leashed at all times. In case of inclement weather, concerts will be held indoors at the Lincoln Center located at 935 Maple Ave. To check concert locations based on the weather status, visit dgparks.org or call 630.963.0575 after 5:30 pm.</p>
<p>August 7, Tuesday</p> 	<p>Evening Explore Your Faith (7 p.m.) Meets at Hruska's residence, Naperville, on the first and third Tuesday of each month.</p>
<p>August 8, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>August 11-12, Saturday-Sunday</p> 	<p>The Landing Lock-In (8/11 – 5 p.m. to 8/12 – 9 a.m.) Details will be forthcoming.</p>
<p>August 12, Sunday</p> 	<p>Rainbow Faith @ HOPE UCC (1-3 p.m.) HOPE's ministry to support those in the LGBTQ+ community who are looking for a place to wonder and explore their faith. Find out more at: www.meetup.com/Rainbow-Faith-LGBTQ-Christians/ If you have questions, would like to participate or support this ministry, please contact Pastor Lucas.</p>
<p>August 15, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>August 16, Thursday</p> 	<p>Women Out to Lunch (Noon) Join the women of HOPE on the third Thursday of each month. Lively conversation, great food & warm fellowship is waiting for you at Giordano's Restaurant at 119 S. Main Street, in downtown Naperville. Parking is available in the lot across from the restaurant or the Van Buren Parking Building.</p>